

## DISTRIBUTIONS FOR TWO HOLARCTIC WEEVILS WHICH ARE NEW HOUSEHOLD PESTS (COLEOPTERA: CURCULIONIDAE)<sup>1,2</sup>

Edward U. Balsbaugh, Jr.<sup>3</sup>

**ABSTRACT:** *Barypeithes pellucidus* and *Brachysomus echinatus* are two Holarctic species of weevils which separately or together have been collected in homes in two states, viz. Minnesota and Montana, and are considered as pests primarily because of their presence. Distributions in North America for both species are given, including a postglacial fossil record for *Barypeithes pellucidus*, a weevil previously considered to have been introduced from Europe.

Two species of small weevils have been collected in homes where they have annoyed the occupants simply by their presence. They are *Barypeithes pellucidus* (Boheman) and *Brachysomus echinatus* (Bonsdorff). Both species were collected together several times in lakeshore summer cabins at Upper Cormorant Lake, Becker County, northwestern Minnesota. The former species has also been recently collected in a home in Missoula, Montana, where its occurrence was also annoying the occupants.

*Barypeithes pellucidus* (Boheman) (Brachyderinae: Brachyderini).

In Minnesota, *Barypeithes pellucidus* was first collected by J. Carter, June 26, 1983, in his lake cottage where he found them scattered on the floor and at the windows. He again found them in his home July 4, 1983. The author collected a series of these weevils on June 28, 1984, by sweeping unidentified mixed vegetation on the lawn in front of the Carter cottage.

This year, three specimens collected by Marie Root in a home in Missoula, Montana, June 9, 1987, were received by the North Dakota State University extension entomologists for identification. They too proved to be *B. pellucidus*, which is the first known occurrence of them in Montana.

*Barypeithes pellucidus* is a Holarctic species whose European distribution is reported to include Great Britain, the Netherlands, France, and Transylvania (von Dalla Torre *et al.*, 1937) and Central Europe, southern

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<sup>3</sup>Entomology Department, North Dakota State University, Fargo, North Dakota 58105.

North Europe, eastward to Bukowina, Poland, and in the East being found only in cities, gardens and parks' (Freude *et al.*, 1981).

In America, *B. pellucidus* is transcontinental. Distribution data recorded by Donald P. Schwert from pinned specimens in the United States National Museum and Canadian National Collection include the following:

British Columbia: Squamish, Sidney, and Victoria; District of Columbia: Washington; Idaho: Clearwater Co.; Indiana: Tippecanoe Co.; Maine: Bar Harbor and Rockport; Maryland: Sparks; Michigan: Allegan Co.; Newfoundland: St. Johns and Topsail; New Jersey: Dundee Lake and Orange Mountains; New York: Brooklyn, Huntington (Long Island), Geneva, Oswego, Piermont, Rochester, and Taughannock Falls State Park; Nova Scotia: Kentville, Waverley and Yarmouth; Ohio: Wooster; Ontario: Carleton Place, Kerr Lake, Marmora, Ottawa, Port Rowan, and Toronto; Oregon: Salem; Pennsylvania: Chestnut Hill, Gettysburg, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh; Prince Edward Island: Cavendish; Quebec: Knowlton; Rhode Island: Newport; Washington: Pierce County; and Wisconsin: Dane County. Besides the above, Kissinger (1964) also listed California and Massachusetts and O'Brien and Wibmer (1982) included Connecticut, Illinois, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Virginia.

In addition, Schwert *et al.*, (1985) collected and identified fossils representing articulated elytra of *Barypeithes pellucidus* which they recovered from intact lake sediments deposited 9000 to 11,000 years ago in southwestern Ontario.

Lindroth (1957) and O'Brien and Wibmer (1982) have stated that both *Barypeithes pellucidus* and *Brachysomus echinatus* were introduced from Europe to North America. Blatchley and Leng (1916) also implied that *Barypeithes pellucidus* is a species introduced from Europe where it is reported to attack strawberries. Thus far, no economic significance associated with crops is attributed to this species in North America.<sup>4</sup> The fossils of *Barypeithes pellucidus* from Ontario, however, definitely prove its prehistoric existence in North America.

***Brachysomus echinatus* (Bonsdorff) (Brachyderinae: Brachyderini).**

*Brachysomus echinatus* (Bonsdorff) (= *Thricolepoides clavisetis* O'Brien, 1979 (O'Brien and Wibmer, 1984)) also is Holarctic. It is parthenogenetic (Freude *et al.*, 1981), and specimens of it were collected in a different cabin at Upper Cormorant Lake, Becker, County, Minnesota, June 12, 1978, by Lori Statler (Becker). Subsequently they appeared in other cabins at this lake, often in association with *Barypeithes pellucidus*. *Brachysomus echinatus* is widely distributed in Europe, viz. central and

<sup>4</sup>Galford (1987) recently reported that *B. pellucidus* was observed feeding on 18 species of plants in Ohio, of which northern red oak, aster, American elm, hawthorn, and black cherry were preferred.

northern Europe, northern and central France, Switzerland, Caucasia and Transcaucasia, USSR (von Dalla Torre *et al.*, 1937; Freude *et al.*, 1981) but in North America has also been recorded from Quebec and Newfoundland (Lindroth, 1957) and Massachusetts (O'Brien and Wibmer, 1982).

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